

76 8004/6

5 June 1976

Mr. John William Ward
President
Amherst College
Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

Dear President Ward:

This is in response to your letter of 17 May 1976, in which you levied upon CIA a Freedom of Information Act request concerning paid or unpaid contact between the Agency and any faculty member, student, or employee of Amherst College. This aspect of your letter has been referred to the appropriate office for handling under procedures designed to implement the Act. You will receive that response in due course.

You raised several other issues in your letter, and their tone suggests that you misunderstand the nature of CIA contact with the academic community. I note that you sent William Van Alstyne, President, AAUP, a copy of your letter to me. As you apparently are aware, he also wrote expressing concerns similar to yours. I believe that my response to him was clear, and I take the liberty of quoting here from that letter, dated 11 May 1976. I said,

"The Agency has several kinds of relationships with scholars and scholarly institutions. They include negotiated contracts for scientific research and development, contracts for social science research on the many matters that affect foreign policy, paid and unpaid consultations between scholars and CIA research analysts, contracts with individuals who have travelled abroad, and other similar contracts that help us fulfill our primary responsibility; i.e., to provide the policy makers of our government with information and assessments of foreign developments.

We seek the voluntary and witting cooperation of individuals who can help the foreign policy processes of the United States. Those who help are expressing a freedom of choice. Occasionally such relationships are confidential at our request,



but more often they are discreet at the scholar's request because of his concern that he will be badgered by those who feel he should not be free to make this particular choice.

None of the relationships are intended to influence either what is taught or any other aspect of a scholar's work. We specifically do not try to inhibit the 'free search for truth and its free exposition.' Indeed, we would be foolish to do so, for it is the truth we seek. We know that we have no monopoly on fact or on understanding, and to restrict the search for the truth would be extremely detrimental to our own purposes. If CIA were to isolate itself from the good counsel of the best scholars in our country, we would surely become a narrow organization that could give only inferior service to the government. The complexity of international relations today requires that our research be strong, and we intend to keep it strong by seeking the best perspectives from inside and outside the government."

I hope that the above statement is reassuring. Let me say that any employee of any school with whom we have had an exchange of views in his capacity as employee is free to acknowledge that fact publicly or to his college or university administration. My understanding of these matters leads me to believe, however, that while consulting with any part of our government a scholar usually thinks of himself as a private actor rather than as part of the institution of higher education from which he comes. Thus, he feels neither more nor less obligated to report his relationship with CIA than he would his consultations with other U.S. agencies, with U.S. and foreign businesses, or with foreign governments. Since we do not seek scholarly contact from particular schools, but rather reach out for advice from the best authorities wherever they may be, I see some merit in the scholar's logic.

I also want you to be assured that I do understand the important role of our colleges and universities in the preservation of freedom. Each institution in our society must make its own rules and policies about the conduct of its members. I seriously disagree with two of your points, however.

First, I cannot agree that secrecy is necessarily a threat to freedom--either to the freedom of the individual or to the freedom associated with true scholarship. Surely you would not argue that a professor whose research contributed to the development of a sensor that could warn of strategic attack is obligated to publish the research findings that make the system effective. I also hope that you can see the merit of secrecy that ensures the flow of vital information to the government by protecting sources and methods of collection. If you can accept that secrecy, then would you preclude a scholar who consults with the government from reviewing information that is protected? And if a scholar reviews secret factual details about a foreign policy problem, would you require him to reveal those details when he writes his next article on foreign affairs for a scholarly journal?

Finally, I hope that any policies or standards of ethics that you adopt for Amherst will include an encouragement to serve the society and its institutions. I believe that on his own time a faculty member should be free to consult or contract with the CIA or any other part of the government without fear of censure. For our part, we will never coerce someone to cooperate. Having said that, it seems to me that a scholar's conscience, rather than an institutional "yes" or "no", should determine his relationship with the government.

Sincerely,


George Bush
Director

Distribution:

Original- Addressee

cys to DCI

DDCI

DDS&T

DDI

DDA

DDO

D/DCI/NIO

Asst/DCI

C/IPS (IPS Subject (F-76-324)) IPS Chrono

Mr. Knoche

C/Review Staff

ES Academic File

ER

- 3 -

STAT

OPR/

PRIORITY

2-1.2.1
2005/06/08 : CIA-RDP79-00048A00010009-0

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY
76-8004/4
☐ SECRET

HANDLING FOIA REQUEST

REQUEST NUMBER

Letter to John W. Ward President, Amherst College

F-76-324

FROM:

DDA/IPS
2 E 50 HQS

EXTENSION

DATE SENT

27 August 1976

EXPENSE DATE

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. DDCI
Mr. Knoche BX-3

Even though the DCI signed the letter which acknowledged Mr. Ward's request, it is the general consensus that this letter, an FOIA response, should be signed by Mr. Wilson.

The attached draft reflects changes and/or suggested revisions provided by Messrs.

RETURN TO:

Gene F. Wilson
C/IPS DX-2 Green

PRIORITY HANDLING

FOIA REQUEST

John William Ward
President
Amherst College
Amherst, MA 01002

Dear President Ward:

This is in response to your letters of May 17, 1976 and August 2, 1976, and with reference to the letter dated June 5, 1976 sent to you by the Director of Central Intelligence.

We have completed an exhaustive search of our records and the results disclose that this Agency maintains no covert relationships with anyone who is connected with Amherst College, either as a member of the staff, or as a member of the student body.

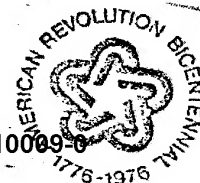
We have determined that over the years there had been a number of varied contacts with members of the staff at Amherst College in the 1950s, fewer in the 1960s, and only a couple in the 1970s. These contacts have run the gamut of routine purposes, such as identification of prospective candidates for employment, professional consultation, and requests for study materials by Amherst College personnel.

None of these contacts involved covert relationships. Even though we could not divulge the identities of such individuals without violating their individual rights to privacy, we are nevertheless gratified to note that in your letter of May 17, 1976 you stated that you were not interested in the names of any specific individuals.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Agency.

Sincerely,

Gene F. Wilson
Information and Privacy Coordinator



STAT

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Executive Registry

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DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

file

letter

DCI: FOR your approval -

NOT signatures

Ben

OK

It appears that he is expecting
a reply from us. Please look into this.

GB 8-6

Mr. Bush: As attached ()
response*

STAT

*P.S. Sorry this has taken
so long, but everybody
had divergent views
on response.*

E-1.2.1

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PRIORITY HANDLING FOIA REQUEST

SUBJECT: (Optional)

JOHN WILLIAM WARD

REQUEST NUMBER

FROM:

C/FOI&PLD

Office of General Counsel

EXTENSION

DATE SENT

21 September 1976

SUSPENSE DATE

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

C/SS

9/21

CAIB

2.

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5.

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DDCI

9/21

HL

8.

DCI

23 SEP 1976

9.

10.

11.

12.

C/IPS

FVI

To 12:
DCI thinks
this OK

23 SEP 1976

RETURN TO:

PRIORITY HANDLING FOIA REQUEST

Approved For Release 2005/06/08 : CIA-RDP79M00467A001100010009-0
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Mr. John William Ward
President, Amherst College
Amherst, Massachusetts

Dear President Ward:

This is in response to your letters of 17 May 1976 and 2 August 1976 to the Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) requesting, under the Freedom of Information Act, information concerning "paid or unpaid contacts between the CIA and any faculty member, student or employee of Amherst College."

As you can appreciate, this Agency receives many requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding confidential relationships between the CIA and various foreign and American individuals and institutions. We are obliged, however, to respond to such requests neither affirmatively nor negatively because the DCI has a responsibility, under paragraph 102(d)(3) of the National Security Act of 1947, to protect intelligence sources and methods from unauthorized disclosure. To the extent that this constitutes a denial of your request, it was made pursuant to the authority of exemption (b)(3) of the Freedom of Information Act.

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I regret that under the circumstances we are unable to be more forthcoming in our response to your request. May I add, however, that as the Director pointed out in his letter to you of June 5, any academician with whom the Agency has a relationship is free to acknowledge that fact to his or her college or university administration. Let me also repeat his assurance that we do understand and appreciate the vital role of our colleges and universities in the preservation of freedom.

Sincerely,

Gene F. Wilson
Information and Privacy Coordinator

STAT

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Ben

It appears that he is expecting
a reply from us. Please look into this.

GB 8-6

EXERCISE REGISTRY FOR E-1.2.1

AMHERST COLLEGE
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS 01002

The President

413-542-2234

413-542-2000

E-1.2.1

August 2, 1976

George Bush, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. George Bush:

My slowness in responding to you is no measure of my pleasure with your personal and thoughtful response to my letter of inquiry.

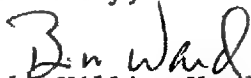
I look forward to the response from "the appropriate office" to the question concerning paid or unpaid contact between the Central Intelligence Agency and any faculty member, student, or employee of Amherst College.

I have deliberated for some time whether to respond at length, and have decided not to. First, I truly do not wish to impose myself upon you. I was not being simply polite when I said your responsibilities are heavy, and I would not wish to add to them unduly. Second, as a friend once said to me when we were talking together about one's political responsibility, my first responsibility is to see to it that the institution at which I have the pleasure of being President is well-run. So, I would prefer to wait upon an answer to my inquiry before rhetorical speculation.

There are distinctions properly to be made, and you make some. There are also differences, I suspect, between us on how a scholar or an institution of learning may best serve American society. If I were to pursue those differences, it would best be done by way of particular instances, so I will resist the impulse and wait to see if there are instances which involve Amherst College which are germane to my concerns.

Again, however, I truly thank you for your letter.

Cordially,


John William Ward

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

ER
Executive Registry
76-80041A

5 June 1976

Mr. John William Ward
President
Amherst College
Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

Dear President Ward:

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You raised several other issues in your letter, and their tone suggests that you misunderstand the nature of CIA contact with the academic community. I note that you sent William Van Alstyne, President, AAUP, a copy of your letter to me. As you apparently are aware, he also wrote expressing concerns similar to yours. I believe that my response to him was clear, and I take the liberty of quoting here from that letter, dated 11 May 1976. I said,

"The Agency has several kinds of relationships with scholars and scholarly institutions. They include negotiated contracts for scientific research and development, contracts for social science research on the many matters that affect foreign policy, paid and unpaid consultations between scholars and CIA research analysts, contracts with individuals who have travelled abroad, and other similar contracts that help us fulfill our primary responsibility; i.e., to provide the policy makers of our government with information and assessments of foreign developments.

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Executive Registry
Room 7-E-12
Headquarters

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but more often they are discreet at the scholar's request because of his concern that he will be badgered by those who feel he should not be free to make this particular choice.

None of the relationships are intended to influence either what is taught or any other aspect of a scholar's work. We specifically do not try to inhibit the 'free search for truth and its free exposition.' Indeed, we would be foolish to do so, for it is the truth we seek. We know that we have no monopoly on fact or on understanding, and to restrict the search for the truth would be extremely detrimental to our own purposes. If CIA were to isolate itself from the good counsel of the best scholars in our country, we would surely become a narrow organization that could give only inferior service to the government. The complexity of international relations today requires that our research be strong, and we intend to keep it strong by seeking the best perspectives from inside and outside the government."


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Sincerely,


George Bush
Director

Distribution:

Original- Addressee

cys to DCI

DDCI

DDS&T

DDI

DDA

DDO

D/DCI/NIO

Asst/DCI

C/IPS

Mr. Knoche

C/Review Staff

ES Academic File

ER

- 3 -

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STAT

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Barbara

I've revised the letter to President Ward of Amherst College, taking account of Mr. Bush's ideas. It seems to me that, because of the very specific mention of covert relationships in the Parkhurst letter, the response to that should not be revised. We have retyped the first page of the Parkhurst letter to accommodate the more complete address line.



DDI/CAR

Atts

Date 2 June 1976

FORM 101 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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Approved For Release 2005/06/08 : CIA-RDP79M00467A001100010009-0

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

26 May 1976

Mr. John William Ward
President
Amherst College
Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

Dear President Ward:

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Sincerely,

George Bush
Director

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	UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	Coordinator for Academic Relations 3E 63 HQS		
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Remarks:			
<p>Per our telephone conversation, attached are some very rough notes the Director made for consideration as additions to the letters for Messrs. Parkhurst and Ward. I have given a copy to ODDO [] If you agree that these thoughts are worthy of inclusion, please have the letters retyped (and the Director said he has no pride in the prose, so go ahead and edit as you think proper).</p> <p>If the letter to Parkhurst is retyped, please have the address lines changed as indicated on the slip of paper attached.</p>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
D/ES/ []			1 Jun 76
Approved For Release 2005/06/08 : CIA-RDP79M00467A001100010009-0			
	UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET

Executive Registry

Executive Registry

Ben:

76-8004/1

76-8004/1

27 May 76

Here is a suggested revision of the letter to President Ward. You might wish to check the second sentence of the last paragraph. I think it is true, and it is the beginning of the statement of principles that I am attempting to draft. It separates the question of a scholar's responsibility to report CIA contact when he sees himself as independent actor from his responsibility to report when he is acting in his university capacity. It leaves the choice of reporting to the scholar in either case.

Date 5/27/76

FORM 101 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

26 May 1976

Mr. John William Ward
President
Amherst College
Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

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Sincerely,

George Bush
Director

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AMHERST COLLEGE
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS 01002

Executive Registry

76-8004

The President

May 17, 1976

413-542-2234

413-542-2000

STAT

Mr. George Bush
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Mr. Bush:

The Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Activities, under the Chairmanship of Senator Frank Church, in its report on covert and clandestine relations between the C.I.A. and universities, recommended no action to prohibit such relations. Instead, the Senate Select Committee said it believes "it is the responsibility of private institutions and particularly the American academic community to set the professional and ethical standards of its members."

I accept the responsibility named by the Senate Select Committee, and write you for information which I need in order to discharge it. Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), I wish to know, as President of Amherst College, whether any intelligence operation conducted by the C.I.A. has involved any faculty member, student, or employee of Amherst College, including, but not limited to, paid or unpaid agents or informers.

I do not wish to have the name of specific individuals. I wish only to know whether and to what extent any individual at Amherst College may have been involved in covert relations with the C.I.A. Frankly, I am incredulous that any individual could possibly have been, but then the report of the Senate Select Committee is surely a challenge to innocent faith in the operations of agencies of the United States government.

I do not wish to lecture faculty, students, or employees of the College, in the abstract, about their professional and ethical obligations. To do so could only arouse general suspicion and free-floating anxiety, wonderment about why I address the question at all. I find myself in the awkward position of not knowing, by definition, whether there is some secret arrangement between the C.I.A. and any member of the College, now or in the past.

Important issues are involved. At Amherst College, we try to teach students to live by a code of "intellectual responsibility." A sentence from that code reads, "Amherst cannot educate those who are unwilling to submit their own work and ideas to critical assessment." The sentence is an attempt to capture in words the ideal of an intellectual community, the belief that openness, honesty, the willingness to say what one has to say and to accept criticism and to listen to opposing views are essential, the necessary conditions of intellectual life. Secrecy subverts those essential values and conditions. It is, to put it simply, intolerable in an academic community.

Mr. George Bush

-2-

May 17, 1976

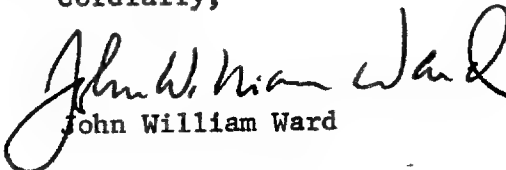
More is involved, no less than the conditions of freedom in a pluralistic and free society. That is not simply rhetoric. Your responsibilities as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency are heavy and grave. The justification of all you do derives finally from the defense of freedom. But in a free society, the surest way to subvert freedom is to call into doubt, to question the authenticity and credibility of free and independent institutions within American society itself.

Between the isolated individual and the awesome power of the state, a free society depends upon intermediate institutions to act as buffers against power, to say "No" to power. To erode the capacity to believe that private institutions do play the role which freedom requires is to create a psychology of mistrust and fear which can only weaken freedom itself.

Your responsibility is great. My responsibility is small. But to discharge my responsibility, namely, to remind members of one academic community of their proper intellectual and moral and political responsibility, requires information from you. It is information legally required, but I would not insist on that. It is morally required.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Cordially,


John William Ward

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cc: William W. Van Alstyne, President, AAUP
George L. Shinn, Chairman, Board of Trustees
Senator Frank Church
Senator Edward Kennedy
Senator Edward Brooke

MAY 21 9 12 AM '76

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		
TO: DDO Registry		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
FROM:		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

Approved For Release 2005/06/08 : CIA-RDP79M00467A001100010009-0

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

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TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI				
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5	DDI				
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7	DDO				
8	D/DCI/NI				
9	GC		✓		
10	LC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers	✓			
14	D/S				
15	DTR				
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18	C/IPS				
19	DCI/SS				
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SUSPENSE _____
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Remarks:

D/ Executive Secretary
9/27/76
Date

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EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FAX

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SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Executive Registry

76-5338

SCHOOL OF LAW
OFFICE OF LAW PLACEMENT

3642 LINDELL BOULEVA
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 6

September 23, 1976

Mr. William Colby
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Sir:

Each year a number of graduating law students at Saint Louis University School of Law inquire about the opportunities in the various federal agencies and departments throughout the country. Our placement office would therefore appreciate it if you could supply us with a list of any legal positions which will be open in May of 1977. Specifically, could you include all the requirements for the job, along with a brief job description.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. We look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Sheerar, J.D.
Placement Director

RCS:jsh